

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action dated January 16, 2008. Reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-9 and 12-16 are pending in the Application.

Claims 1, 3, 4, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,084,935 to Mandler ("Mandler"). Claims 1-2, 5, 6, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0169575 to Ikuta ("Ikuta"). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-9 and 12-16 are allowable over Mandler and Ikuta for at least the following reasons.

Mandler shows an insulating body (light guide 30, see FIGs. 5B, 5C) surrounding all sides of an electrical component (light device 22). Electrical conductors 25 extend outward from the electrical component to conductive pads 27 on an underside of a substrate 20 (see, col. 4, lines 36-50). As is plain to see, the electrical conductors are not overlaid by an insulating attachment layer as the Office Action has equated the electrical conductors 25 to the attachment layer of the present device (see, Office Action,

page 3, lines 2-3). Accordingly, the attachment layer (electrical conductors 25 of Mandler) is not overlaid by the attachment layer since they are one and the same in Mandler or at least are interpreted as the same by the Office Action. Further, the electrical conductors 25 of Mandler do not have one or more cutout portions that are overlaid by the electrical component (light device 22).

Similarly, Ikuta shows an insulating body (dielectric substrate 2, see FIG. 1) surrounding all sides of an electrical component (component 6). Electrical conductors 2a1 extend outward from the electrical component (see, Col. 4, lines 36-50). As is plain to see, the electrical conductors 2a1 are not overlaid by an insulating attachment layer which the Office Action has equated to an external electric circuit board 7 positioned on a bottom side of the component 6 (see, Office Action, page 4, lines 6-7 and Ikuta, paragraph [0045]). Accordingly, the electrical conductors 2a1 of Ikuta are not overlaid by the external electric circuit board 7. Further, the external electric circuit board 7 of Ikuta does not have one or more cutout portions that are overlaid by the electrical component 6.

It is respectfully submitted that the device of claim 1 is not

anticipated or made obvious by the teachings of Mandler and Ikuta. For example, Mandler and Ikuta does not disclose or suggest, a device that amongst other patentable elements, comprises (illustrative emphasis added) "an electric component is present having a top portion, a bottom portion and side portions, the component being attached to the body through an attachment layer, provided with a pattern of electrical conductors for electrically coupling the component to other components and/or contact means for external coupling, at least one of which electrical conductors extends into the body and is electrically coupled to a further conductor that is embedded in the body and is at least partially exposed to a surface of the body, wherein the body only partially surrounds the side portions of the electric component" as recited in claim 1. In fact in each of Mandler and Ikuta, the insulating portions surround all sides of the electrical component.

Based on the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 7 and 12 are patentable over Mandler and Ikuta and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. Claims 2-9 and 12-16 respectively depend from claim 1 and accordingly are allowable for at least this reason as well as for the separately patentable elements contained in each of the claims.

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For example, Mandler and Ikuta does not disclose or suggest, a device that amongst other patentable elements, comprises (illustrative emphasis added) "wherein the body completely surrounds three of the side portions of the electric component and exposes a fourth side portion of the electrical component" as recited in claim 12, nor "wherein the attachment layer comprises insulting material overlaid by the body" as recited in claim 13, nor "wherein the pattern of electrical conductors run along a bottom side of the attachment layer that faces away from the electrical component" as recited in claim 14, nor "wherein the attachment layer has at least one cutout portion overlaid by the electrical component enabling the electrical coupling between the electrical conductors and the electrical component" as recited in claim 15, nor "wherein the attachment layer has two cutout portions overlaid by the electrical component and a bridging portion between the two cutout portions, wherein the bridging portion is overlaid by the electrical component" as recited in claim 16.

Accordingly, separate consideration of each of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the

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foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

Applicants have made a diligent and sincere effort to place this application in condition for immediate allowance and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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